

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 9 are pending in the application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 8 and 9 have been amended and new claims 10-17 have been added. It is respectfully submitted that this Submission is fully responsive to the Office Action dated November 4, 2004.

As To The Merits:

As to the merits of this case, the Examiner maintains the following rejections:

- 1) claims 1, 4, 5 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Georgiou et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,940,785) in view of Kenny et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,287,292); and
- 2) claims 2, 3, 6, 7 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Georgiou et al. and Kenny et al. in view Applicant Admitted Prior Art (AAPA).

Each of these rejections is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1-9:

Independent claims 1, as amended, now calls for *access monitoring means for monitoring IO packets from a predetermined single one or a number of said components, and for detecting peak-power generating condition and peak-power terminating condition for the components.*

Independent claims 5 and 8 have been amended in a similar manner.

For example, as discussed in page 18, line 19 through page 19, line 12 of the present specification, IO packets are monitored and the monitored IO packets are used detect peak-power generating conditions and peak-power terminating conditions for the components.

That is, with this configuration of the present invention, power saving control for information devices is enabled without requiring an additional part, which is not disclosed in the applied prior art references.

However, the applied references of Kenny and Georgiou are not concerned with access monitoring for monitoring IO packets from a single or a plurality of components.

Instead, according to Georgiou, “[u]sing thermal sensors for feedback, the voltage swing and operating frequency of the circuit are cooperatively varied (also called voltage-frequency pairs) to reduce the power dissipation without compromising reliability or system synchronization. Reducing the voltage swing at the outputs of the circuit advantageously reduces power dissipation by a factor of the voltage squared. The circuit's clock frequency is correspondingly varied with the voltage to maintain critical timing paths within specifications.”¹

That is, Georgiou fails to monitor IO packets from a single or a plurality of components and instead controls the power mode based on feedback provided from thermal sensors.

In addition, according to Kenny, “the temperature of an integrated circuit is indirectly measured by monitoring the activity of the integrated circuit as a function of time and generating

¹ Please see, lines 18 – 28, column 2 of Georgiou.

a figure of merit (called a temperature count) which is a measure of the temperature of the circuit.”²

However, monitoring the activity of the integrated circuit as disclosed by Kenny is clearly different from monitoring IO packets from a single or a plurality of components, as called for in the present claimed invention.

Moreover, since the applied references of Kenny and Georgiou are not concerned with access monitoring for monitoring IO packets from a single or a plurality of components, it follows that these references also fail to disclose additional features of the claimed invention concerning *power-mode changing means for switching mode of power, to the predetermined single one or number of said components, from a normal-power mode to a power-saving mode according to detected information from said access monitoring means on said peak-power generating condition, and for switching the power mode from said power-saving mode to said normal-power mode according to detected information from said access monitoring means on said peak-power terminating condition.*

² Please see, line 65, column 1 – line 2 column 2 of Kenny.

New Claims 10-17:

Independent claim 10 calls for *access monitoring means for monitoring information on access to components which are monitored among said plurality of components, and for detecting peak-power generating condition and peak-power terminating condition for the monitored components; and power-mode changing means for switching mode of power, to the components which are not monitored among said plurality of components, from a normal-power mode to a power-saving mode according to detected information from said access monitoring means on said peak-power generating condition, and for switching the power mode from said power-saving mode to said normal-power mode according to detected information from said access monitoring means on said peak-power terminating condition.* Independent claim 14 includes similar features.

That is, new independent claims 10 and 14 regard components which are monitored and components which are not monitored are separated, and the components which are not monitored are turned to a power saving control mode when a peak power of the components which are monitored are detected.

It is respectfully submitted that the applied references fail to disclose or fairly suggest the features of new claims 10-17.

Response under 37 C.F.R. §1.114
Serial No. 09/809,106
Attorney Docket No.: 010283

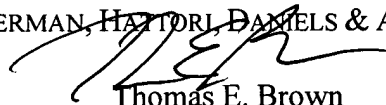
In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP



Thomas E. Brown
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 44,450

TEB/jl
1250 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 822-1100 (t)
(202) 822-1111 (f)